

### **REMARKS**

In the March 7, 2006 Office Action, claims 1-6, 12, 13, 18-22, 24 and 28 stand rejected in view of prior art, while claims 7-11, 14-17, 23 and 25-27 were indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

#### ***Status of Claims and Amendments***

In response to the March 7, 2006 Office Action, Applicant has amended the specification and claims as indicated above. Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter and the thorough examination of this application. Thus, claims 7-10, 14-21 and 23-30 are pending, with claims 7, 14, 18 and 23 being the independent claims. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following comments.

#### ***Interview Summary***

On March 20, 2006, the undersigned and Examiner Marcelo, who is in charge of the above-identified patent application, had a brief telephone conversation. During the conversation, it was pointed out that claim 28 contained the subject matter of claim 11 yet claim 28 was rejected and claim 11 was indicated as allowable. Examiner Marcelo indicated that claim 28 was also allowable. Applicant wishes to thank Examiner Marcelo for the opportunity to discuss the above-identified patent application during the telephone conversation of March 20, 2006.

#### ***Specification***

Applicant has amended the specification to correct a typographical error in paragraph [0042]. Specifically, 43a is changed to 43d.

Applicant believes that the specification is now correct and complies with 37 CFR §1.71 and 37 CFR §1.75(d)(1).

***Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102***

On page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1, 3-5, 12, 13, 18, 20, 21 and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,261,627 (Shinohara). On page 3 of the Office Action, claims 1, 5, 6, 18, 22 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,848,757 (Amano et al). In response, Applicant has amended independent claim 18 to clearly define the present invention over the prior art of record.

In particular, independent claim 18 recites a first engaging portion of a fixed shaft that ***non-rotatably*** engages with a first engaged portion of a first bail support member. The first engaging portion projects along an axial direction of the fixed shaft and the first engaged portion has a recess configured to engage the first engaging portion. This structure is ***not*** disclosed or suggested by Shinohara, Amano et al or any other prior art of record. It is well settled under U.S. patent law that for a reference to anticipate a claim, the reference must disclose each and every element of the claim within the reference.

Shinohara discloses a fishing line guide with a projecting part 14 that meets with an anti-tangling portion 10. Amano et al discloses a screw 7 that meets with a frame 10. Shinohara and Amano et al do not disclose a first engaging portion of a fixed shaft that ***non-rotatably*** engages with a first engaged portion of a first bail support member. Furthermore, Shinohara and Amano et al do not disclose a first engaging portion that projects along an axial direction of the fixed shaft and a first engaged portion that has a recess configured to engage the first engaging portion.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 18, as now amended, is not anticipated by the prior art of record. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Moreover, Applicant believes that dependent claims 20, 21 and 24 are also allowable over the prior art of record in that they depend from independent claim 18, and therefore are allowable for the reasons stated above. Also, the dependent claims are further allowable because they include

additional limitations. Thus, Applicant believes that since the prior art of record does not anticipate independent claim 18, neither does the prior art anticipate the dependent claims.

Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections.

***Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103***

On page 4 of the Office Action, claims 2 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Shinohara in view of '144 (Murakami).

***Applicant was not provided with a full citation of the Murakami patent.*** The Murakami patent is not listed on form PTO-892 and the full citation is not given anywhere in the Office Action. Therefore, ***Applicant has not been provided with the reference used in the rejection.***

Applicant believes that the dependent claims are allowable over the prior art of record in that they depend from independent claim 18, and therefore are allowable for the reasons stated above. Also, the dependent claims are further allowable because they include additional limitations. Thus, Applicant believes that since the prior art of record does not disclose or suggest the invention as set forth in independent claim 18, the prior art of record also fails to disclose or suggest the inventions as set forth in the dependent claims.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn in view of the above comments.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

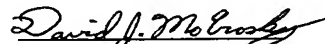
On pages 4 and 5 of the Office Action, claims 14-17 were indicated as allowed and claims 7-11, 23 and 25-27 were indicated as containing allowable subject matter. Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for this indication of allowable subject matter and the thorough examination of this application. In response, Applicant has amended claims 7 and 23 to place them in independent form. Thus, independent claims 7 and 23 are believed to be allowable.

Appl. No. 10/811,954  
Amendment dated May 10, 2006  
Reply to Office Action of March 7, 2006

***Conclusion***

In view of the foregoing amendment and comments, Applicant respectfully asserts that claims 7-10, 14-21 and 23-30 are now in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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